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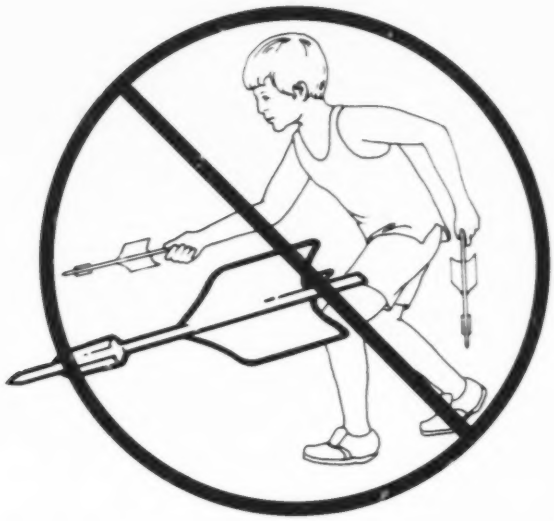
Consumer Product SAFETY ALERT

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

November 1988

CPSC Bans Lawn Darts



WARNING:
Lawn darts may cause serious or fatal injury. Parents are urged to discard or destroy them immediately.

Effective December 19, 1988, all lawn darts are banned from sale in the United States. Lawn darts, used in an outdoor game, have been responsible for serious and fatal injuries to children.

A set of lawn darts usually includes four large darts and two targets. The darts typically are about 12 inches long with a heavy metal or weighted plastic tip on one end and three plastic fins on a rod at the other end. The darts are intended to be grasped by the rod and thrown underhand toward a target. While the tip may not be sharp enough to be obviously dangerous, these darts can cause skull punctures and other serious injuries.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that about 6,700 injuries from lawn darts were treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms between January 1978 and December 1987. Three-fourths of the victims were children under 15 years of age. The Commission knows of three children who have been killed by lawn darts. **Do not** allow children to play with lawn darts.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission urges parents to discard or destroy all lawn darts immediately. They should not be given away since they may be of harm to others.

Consumers who find lawn darts still being sold, should contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission on the toll free hotline: 1-800-638-CPSC (2772). A teletypewriter for the hearing impaired is available at 1-800-638-8270; the Maryland TTY number is 1-800-492-8104. Consumers also may write to: Compliance, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

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